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Attorney for the Alcohol and Drug
Counselor Committee of the New Jersey
State Board of Marriage and Family
Therapy Examiners

FILED

2/23/2007 *EJH*
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

By: Susan C. Berger
Deputy Attorney General
Tel. No. (973)648-4876

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
OF THE STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
RONALD MARTINO	:	
	:	
	:	CONSENT ORDER
ENGAGING IN THE UNLICENSED	:	
PRACTICE OF ALCOHOL AND	:	
DRUG COUNSELING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened before the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee") upon information that respondent was engaging in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling and was not licensed or certified by the Committee or any other mental health licensing Board to engage in mental health counseling, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:2D-8.

Respondent submitted a letter from his attorney, Michael J. Baker, Esq., dated January 6, 2006 stating that respondent provides training sessions focused on teaching school and corporate administrators, teachers, employees and individuals a value system for fostering

positive communications within oneself and one's environment. The letter further asserts that respondent does not diagnose or address in any manner psychological dysfunction or personal history and that respondent is not engaging in the practice of alcohol and drug counseling.

On July 26, 2006 respondent treated an investigator from the Enforcement Bureau of the Division of Consumer Affairs, operating in a covert capacity, for a fee. Respondent advised the investigator that he had been engaging in counseling for twenty-seven (27) years, that he has many juvenile clients and has worked with disturbed and incorrigible children. Respondent further stated that he treats many individuals that are alcoholics and drug addicts and has also treated a female client who was bulimic.

Respondent admits that he engaged in clinical alcohol and drug counseling by providing therapy to an investigator from the Enforcement Bureau of the Division of Consumer Affairs on June 15, 2006 for a fee of \$100.00. Further respondent admits that he is not licensed or certified by the Committee or any mental health licensing Board to engage in mental health counseling.

It appearing that the respondent desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings, and the Committee finding this Consent Order to be adequately protective of the public interest, and other good cause appearing;

IT IS THEREFORE ON THIS 23rd DAY OF February, 2007

ORDERED:

1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering, engaging in or advertising any mental health counseling, including but

not limited to alcohol and drug counseling, marriage and family therapy and/or psychotherapy unless and until he is licensed or certified by the Committee or otherwise appropriately licensed in the State of New Jersey to provide mental health counseling services.

2. Respondent shall cooperate with the Committee by providing identification of and contact information for all clients who received any services on or after March 15, 2004 to the Committee within ten (10) days of the filing of the within Consent Order. Respondent shall notify each client of the within Consent Order, advise the client that he has not been licensed or certified to engage in mental health counseling and/or therapy services in the State of New Jersey and that he has been ordered to cease and desist providing such services. Respondent's notification shall advise the client that restitution may be available for clients who received alcohol and drug counseling and/or mental health counseling from respondent, include a copy of the within Order and a copy of the Division of Consumer Affairs complaint form. Respondent shall send a copy of each notification letter to the Committee on or before March 1, 2007. The Committee shall advise any client seeking restitution for unlicensed practice to set forth a description of all services provided by respondent and to list and provide documentation of all payments to respondent. The Committee will send copies of all complaints to respondent. Respondent may submit documentation in response to the consumer

complaints to the Committee within ten (10) days of receipt of the consumer information.

3. The Committee shall review consumer complaints and respondent's submissions and will determine which clients shall receive restitution and the amount of restitution to be paid to each client. Respondent shall send payment of restitution to the Committee within thirty (30) days of receipt of the restitution list. Respondent shall submit to the Committee checks payable to the individual clients. The Committee will forward the checks to the individual clients. Any determinations by the Committee or any client's failure to submit information to the Committee, shall not preclude any client from filing an action against the respondent.

4. Respondent shall pay investigative costs in the amount of thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) upon signing of this Consent Order.

5. Respondent shall pay civil penalties in the amount of twenty five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) upon signing of this Consent Order.

6. Payment of investigative costs and civil penalties shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey and submitted to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. In the event respondent fails to timely pay, a certificate of debt may be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24, and the Committee may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

7. In the event, respondent requests a payment plan for the civil penalties and investigative costs, respondent shall pay two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) contemporaneously with the signing of the Consent Order and thereafter make monthly payments of \$250.00 per month plus interest at the post judgement rate of 2%. The first payment (after the payment contemporaneous with the signing of the Consent Order) shall be due on or before February 1, 2007 and respondent shall continue to pay \$250.00 per month plus interest on or before the first of each month until the civil penalties and investigative costs plus interest is paid in full. Each payment shall be by certified check or money order payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey which shall be mailed or delivered to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee, 124 Halsey Street, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. If the respondent fails to make any payment by the 10th of the month in which it is due or if any payment is rejected for insufficient funds or for any other reason, the full payment plus interest at 2%, shall immediately become due and owing and shall be paid by certified check or money order. In the event respondent seeks to prepay the civil penalty, there shall be no prepayment penalty and no additional payment of statutory interest.

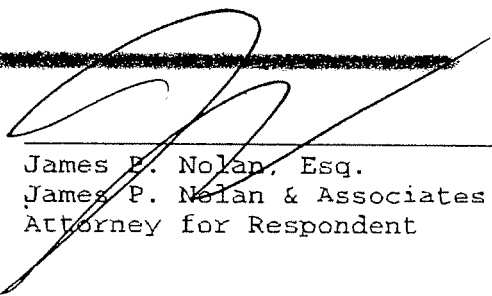
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS


Edward Reading, LCADC

I have read the above Order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee of the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order.

Ronald Martino
Ronald Martino

Consent as to form:



James P. Nolan, Esq.
James P. Nolan & Associates
Attorney for Respondent

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF LAW
MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 21, 2007

TO: Elaine DeMars, Executive Director
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee

FROM: Susan C. Berger, DAG 

SUBJECT: Ron Martino/Unlicensed practice/Consent Order and
payment

DOL DKT. NO.:

Enclosed please find the signed Consent Order in the above entitled matter and 2 checks - \$2,500.00 and \$3,500.00 in full payment. Please have the Committee Chair sign the Order and then please file the Order. Thereafter please send a copy to the respondent's attorney, James P. Nolan, Esq., 61 Green Street, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095 and a copy to me. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.